

Application No. 10/664,776
Amendment dated May 15, 2006
Reply to Office Action of November 14, 2005

REMARKS

Applicant amended the title, cancelled claims 1-7 without prejudice or disclaimer of their subject matter, and added new claims 8-29 to further define Applicant's claimed invention.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The Examiner alleges that claim contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor, at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-7 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,275,601 to Gogolewski et al. Applicant submits that the rejection of claims 1-7 is rendered moot in view of Applicant's cancelling of same.

Applicant submits that independent claims 8 and 24 are patentable and that dependent claims 9-23 and 25-29 dependent from independent claims 8 or 24, or claims dependent therefrom, are patentable at least due to their dependency from an allowable independent claim.

In view of the foregoing remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the claims, as amended, are patentable. Therefore, it is requested that the Examiner reconsider the outstanding rejections in view of the preceding comments. Issuance of a timely Notice of Allowance of the claims is earnestly solicited.

To the extent any extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is required to obtain entry of this reply, such extension is hereby respectfully requested. If there are any fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17 which are not enclosed herewith, including


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any fees required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, please charge such fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-3726.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: May 15, 2006

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